

Belgian Commission Gives Wilson Evidence

Details of German Atrocities and Violation of Belgian Neutrality Laid Before U. S. President and He Makes Non-committal Reply—Acknowledges Kaiser's Protest.

Washington, Sept. 16.—The Belgian commission, which came to protest against alleged German atrocities in Belgium, was received in the east room of the White House today by President Wilson.

Accompanied by Minister Bessent, the commissioners assembled at the state department just before 2 p. m. and were received by Secretary Bryan, who then took them over to the White House.

President Wilson said to the commissioners: "Permit me to say with what sincere pleasure I receive you as representatives of the King of the Belgians, a people for whom the people of the United States feel so strong a friendship and admiration, a king for whom they entertain so sincere a respect, and express my hope that we may have many opportunities of earning and deserving their regard."

The statement of the Belgian commission presented to President Wilson at the White House today by Casimir De Wiat, was in part as follows:

"His Majesty the King of the Belgians has charged us with a mission to the president of the United States.

"Ever since her independence was first established, Belgium has been declared neutral in perpetuity. This neutrality, guaranteed by the powers, has been recently violated by one of them.

"Had we consented to abandon our neutrality for the benefit of one of the belligerents we would have betrayed our obligations towards the others, and it was the sense of our international obligations, as well as that of our dignity and honor, that has driven us to resistance."

"The consequences suffered by the Belgian nation were not confined purely to the harm occasioned by the forced march of an invading army. This army not only seized a great portion of our territory, but it committed incredible acts of violence, the nature of which is contrary to the rights of mankind.

"Peaceful inhabitants were massacred, defenceless women and children were outraged, open and undefended towns were destroyed, historical and religious monuments were reduced to ruins, the famous library of the University of Louvain was given to the flames.

"Our government has appointed a judicial commission to report on the facts and to investigate, so as to thoroughly and impartially examine the facts and to determine the responsibility thereof, and I will have the honor to submit to you the proceedings of the inquiry."

"In this frightful holocaust, which is sweeping all over Europe, the United States have adopted a perfectly neutral attitude. And it is for this reason that your country, standing apart from either one of the belligerents, is in the best position to judge, without prejudice, the conditions under which the war is being waged."

The President's Reply.

Carlton De Wiat, handed to President Wilson the results of the official inquiry instituted by the Belgian government, showing in detail the German atrocities in Belgium. Mr. Wilson thanked the commission for the document and said:

"It shall have my most attentive personal, and my most careful official consideration. You will, I am sure, not expect me to say more. Presently, I pray God very soon, this war will be over."

"I need not add more to this conclusion, in which I instinctively feel that you will yourselves concur, is spoken frankly, because in warm friendship, and as the best means of a perfect understanding between us, an understanding based upon mutual respect, admiration and cordiality."

Reply to Kaiser.

Washington, Sept. 16.—President Wilson today replied to Emperor William's protest that the allied press was publishing untrue statements. The president's reply followed the Belgian commissioners' protest against German atrocities in Belgium. His reply to President Poincaré's message will follow the same lines. The text of the president's reply to Emperor William was as follows:

"I received your imperial majesty's important communication of the seventh, and have read it with great interest and concern. I am honored that you should have addressed me for an impartial judgment as the representative of a people truly disinterested as respects the present war and truly desirous of knowing and accepting the truth.

"You will, I am sure, not expect me to say more. Presently, I pray God very soon, this war will be over. The day of accounting will then come, when I take it for granted the nations of Europe will assemble to determine a settlement. Were wrongs have been committed, their consequences and the responsibility involved will be assessed. The nations of the world have fortunately, by agreement, made a plan for such a reckoning and settlement. What such a plan entails, I do not know, but I am confident that the final court of all such matters, will supply. It would be unwise, it would be premature, for a single government, however fortunately separated from the present struggle, it would even be inconsistent with the neutral position of any nation, which like this, has no part in the contest, to form an expressed final judgment."

"I speak thus frankly because I know that you will expect and wish me to do so, as one friend should to another, and because I feel sure that such a reservation of judgment until the end of the war, when all its events and circumstances can be seen in their entirety, and in their true relation, will commend itself to you as a true expression of sincere neutrality."

"WOODROW WILSON."

German Atrocities.

Washington, Sept. 16.—A resume of the findings of the Belgian commission of inquiry, appointed by the King of the Belgians to investigate the alleged atrocities committed by German troops by the Belgian legion, was made public today, after the report had been presented to President Wilson.

A partial summary follows:

"German cavalry, accompanied by the village of Linneux, were attacked by Belgian troops and two policemen. A German officer was killed by the Belgian soldiers during the fight. None of the civilians had taken part in the fight, nevertheless the village was invaded at dusk on August 10 by a strong force of Germans."

"In spite of the formal assurances given by the burgomaster that none of the civilians had taken part in the fight, two farms and six outlying houses were destroyed by gun fire and reduced to ashes. No recently discharged firearms were found. Nevertheless, the invaders divided the male peasants into three groups. Those in one group were bound, and seven of them placed in a ditch, where they were afterwards found dead, their skulls fractured by the bullets of rifles."

"During the night of August 10 German cavalry entered Velin in great numbers; the inhabitants were asleep. Without provocation the Germans fired on the sleeping population, and broke in to it. They destroyed most of its property. They carried off Mme. Deglisme, half naked, to a place two miles away, where she was then raped, and the fact was noted upon without being hissed away. Her husband was carried to a point in another direction and fired upon as he lay dying."

"Farmer Jef Dierckx, of Noerhespeke, is an eye-witness to the following acts, committed by German cavalry at Orsmaal and Noerhespeke on August 10, 11 and 12. An old man had his arm cut in three longitudinal slices, he was then hanged, head downward, and burned alive. Young girls were raped, and little children outraged at Orsmaal and mutilated, so horrible to describe, were inflicted on other inhabitants."

Wounded Officer Murdered.

"After an engagement at Paelen, Commandant Van Damme was so severely wounded that he was lying prone on his back. He was murdered by German infantry firing their revolvers into his mouth."

"At times the Germans went into the battle with a Belgian flag."

"Near a town of Louvain a group of German infantry hoisted the white flag, and when Belgian soldiers appeared to take them prisoners, they were fired upon at close range."

"Aeschot, a town of 8,000 inhabitants, was invaded by the Germans in the morning of August 19. The Belgian troops remained behind. No sooner had the Germans entered the city than they began shooting several offensive civilians. In the evening, claimants of the Belgian flag were shot, and were shot by the son of the burgomaster. The Germans took hold of every man in the city, carrying them fifty at a time, within some distance of the town. There they grouped them in lines of four men, made them march ahead of them, and fired upon them, killing forty of them."

"For three whole days they continued to pillage and set fire to everything in their way."

"About 450 inhabitants of Aeschot are supposed to have thus perished."

The Ravaging of Louvain.

"The German army penetrated into Louvain, after having set fire to the surrounding towns and villages."

"From the moment of their entrance into the city they requisitioned lodging and food for their troops. They entered the city, and looted their private residences and sacked and pillaged them."

"Until they took hostages, all the private property of the city was destroyed. Women and children were outraged, and ill-treated by the soldiers."

"Previous to the German invasion, the whole city had been warned repeatedly not to offer any resistance to the German troops, or to engage hostile acts."

"On Aug. 28 an engagement took place in the neighborhood of Louvain. The Germans, repulsed and pursued by the Belgian troops, retreated towards Louvain in full panic. Many witnesses testify that at that moment the German garrison in Louvain was entering the city. Immediately the German garrison, stationed at Louvain, withdrew towards the station, where they clashed with their own troops, which were being pursued by the Belgians. Everything seems to point to the fact that a contact took place."

"From that moment, pretending that the Belgian people had fired upon German troops, the Germans began bombing Louvain, and kept up their bombardment until 10 o'clock that night."

"The houses which had not taken fire were set ablaze by rockets, and which the German soldiers were supplied."

Fifty Charred Bodies.

"The fire continued for several days. Numerous corpses of civilians covered the streets and squares. An eye-witness testifies that in one place he counted more than fifty charred bodies of people; many persons who had taken refuge in their cellars trying to escape and falling into the furnace of the blazing city."

"The city is entirely destroyed, with the exception of the city hall and station. The fire continued for days, and far from trying to stop it the Germans, on the contrary, trying to feed it by throwing straw into it. The cathedral and the theatre were consumed by the flames, and fell into ruins. The town resembles an old city in ruins, in the midst of which drunken soldiers were carousing, carrying around bottles of wine and liquor, the officers themselves were installed in arm chairs, drinking like their own men."

"The procedure of the Germans seems to be the same everywhere with a review of similar outrages committed subsequent to the committee's departure for the United States. This includes the destruction of Termonde, where, out of 1,400 houses, only 295 remain standing."

French Confidence in Britain's Strength.

(From the Echo de Paris.)

We have never doubted the decisions taken in London. They mark one of the greatest events of history. Rarely has Great Britain been seen to interfere with all her forces in a war, because she has been fighting for supremacy which she has fighting for supremacy of Europe restored.—Reuter.

Those Dear Girls.

Maud.—At the cashmere this summer I had over a dozen proposals.

Ethel.—How persistent a summer acquaintance can be.—Bosto Transcript.

GERMANS ENTRENCHED FOR THE NEXT GREAT BATTLE

(Continued from page 1.)

strengthening the fortifications on the Rhine, where, if necessary, they could continue a long defensive.

AUSTRIAN ARMIES IN CRITICAL POSITION.

All reports both from Petrograd and such independent sources as Rome and Bucharest, tend to confirm or point in gloomier colors, the critical position of the Austrian armies in Galicia. These armies, which set out to arrest the advance of the main Russian army in Germany, have had the tables turned on them by the Russian generals Ruzsky and Brusiloff, and are threatened with envelopment. Having abandoned Lemberg they are now leaving Przemysl behind them, and retreating to Cracow. It is said by Russian correspondents that the Austrians have lost all discipline, the aim of the men being to get across the Carpathians. If this is true, the commanders are likely to have difficulty in leading them over 200 miles to Cracow, where they might find support from the newly formed German corps, which has assembled there. Besides, they are in danger from the Russian army coming from the north.

Austria is calling to the colors all men available for military service, including those previously rejected as unfit. But this can hardly help the army in Galicia, which, according to Russian reports, suffered such terrible losses.

From East Prussia nothing new has come today, except a report that the Russian General Rennenkampf has frustrated the attempt to outflank him, and that he has taken up positions in line with the fortresses on the Russian side of the border.

GOD OF BATTLES FICKLE IN BELGIUM.

In Belgium there has been a continuation of skirmishes, which have been a feature of the war since the Germans advanced into France, with advances and withdrawals as daily occurrences. For example, the Germans yesterday re-occupied Termonde, only to leave it this morning.

Besides the eastern portion of the country, the Germans hold the line almost to Tournai, in the Department of Hainaut, thus preventing the Belgians from going too far in their harrying tactics on the German troops proceeding to France.

They say, however, the Belgian army has fulfilled its allotted place by keeping at least one division from going to the assistance of the army on the Aisne.

In Italy the agitation for the participation of the country in the war seems to be on the increase. Italy's position is described as one of "armed neutrality to prevent the war from causing her damage, and to shape the new situation in conformity with her interests."

Roumania is in such a same position at the same time does not want to lose any share of the spoils that mightfall. She does not want to go to war, fall to her.

NO CHANGE IN SITUATION.

Paris, Sept. 17.—11.29 p. m.—The official statement issued tonight announces that the situation is without change.

FRENCH GAINING GROUND IN ALSACE.

London, Sept. 17.—14.50 p. m.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Bordeaux says:

"A telegram received here from Delemont, Switzerland, reports that violent fighting is taking place in Alsace, where the French are gaining ground."

FRANCE NOW CHERFULE.

Bordeaux, Sept. 17, 7.40 p. m.—The official word of France awakes with optimism the result of the great battle in northern France. The Germans undoubtedly have received fresh supplies of men and ammunition, but probably less than the French troops, who in the opinion of the Temps military expert, flushed with victory, enjoy a preponderant situation over the enemy who has been in retreat.

Prisoners from the battle of the Marne continue to pour into Bordeaux, but so discreetly has their transport been arranged that the people of the city hardly aware of their presence. Eight hundred of them arrived today most of them Saxons, belonging to the agricultural classes. Some of them were being taken to the field hospitals, and were smilingly at their tattered greenish grey uniforms.

"Red trousers are more elegant, but also more visible," said one. Their uniforms have no metal buttons, but all carry in their pockets a set of copper buttons, surrounded by an imperial crown, wrapped up in tissue paper. These they explain their sew on their tunics when they occupy a town for any length of time.

"The majority of the prisoners too were wounded in their first action, and if they fought little, they marched much. We never did less than forty-five or fifty kilometers a day," said one of the men, who was sitting in a basket, and keeping up one hot meal. But the marching was interrupted by only one hour's sleep."

"This war is a terrible thing," said a Saxon infantryman with tears in his eyes. "I left there," pointing to the east, "my wife and children. Do you think I am here, willingly? What do we want here?"

Wounded From Front.

London, Sept. 18.—8.05 a. m.—A Reuter despatch from Paris says:

"Many French and English wounded coming from Rheims are passing through Noye-la-See."

"During the last three days 1,000 German prisoners were sent westward. Another train of German war material has arrived at Vincennes."

"Cecy-En-Valois, in the Department of Oise, is among the towns most sorely tried by the German invasion. It was three times occupied by the Germans. The mayor, Dr. Chohinet, gave a great example of devotion.

Although 70 years old he was unspared in his attention to the wounded.

Fighting at Braine.

Near Braine, on French left centre, Wednesday, Sept. 16, via Paris, Sept. 17, 3.46 p. m.—There is an incessant roar of artillery along the whole line of battle in the vicinity of Braine where, for the last four days, the great forces of the allies have been engaged in a desperate struggle. The field itself over which the armies are fighting is of a broken nature; consequently there is comparatively little evidence visible of the terrific struggle in progress, although hundreds of thousands of men are engaged in this vicinity. Detachments of artillery from the allied front fire shells with great rapidity at the German positions. Overhead French and British aeroplanes are flying hither and thither, endeavoring to locate the positions of the big German guns. These, however, are so well masked that their emplacement has not yet been discovered, and they cannot be necessarily to launch their great projectiles in the direction of the allied forces.

German aeroplanes appear to have vanished from the scene of action. For about the last three days no German aeroplanes have been seen. British sharpshooters declare that they have accounted for so many that the others now hesitate to take the air.

Many dashing incidents are being recorded of the extraordinarily reckless bravery of the French troops.

Congratulations Exchanged.

London, Sept. 17, 10.50 p. m.—King George today received the following telegram from the King of the Belgians:

"I desire to congratulate you most heartily on the splendid action of the British troops at the battle of the Marne. I am sure that your army will continue to show the same courage and heroism in the future."

The king's reply to King Albert was as follows:

"I thank you most sincerely for your kind telegram and for your appreciation of the services of my troops. I earnestly trust that the combined operations of our allied forces in combination with your brave army, whose heroic efforts are beyond all praise, will meet with continued success and will free your much-loved country from the invader."

The king's reply to the president of the United States was as follows:

"I am honored to receive your kind telegram and to be assured that you are so fully aware of the heroic efforts of our brave army, which are beyond all praise, will meet with continued success and will free your much-loved country from the invader."

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BLACK WATCH DECEASED IN BRITISH RETREAT

Robert Dunn Says British Soldiers Felt French Failed Them But Did Not Complain

"FRENCH MASHED THEM LIKE FLIES AT NIGHT"

Soldiers Cheerful After Four Days Battle Between Le Cateau and St. Quentin—'Five Men Left Out of 58 Under Me,' Said One Officer—Caught Many Glimpses of Battle.

Continuing his story of personal experiences with the British army during the retreat from Mons to Paris, Robert Dunn in the Boston Globe tells of the heroic British spirit in the face of the heart-rending losses of their regiments, particularly to the famous Black Watch which he says was terribly decimated.

A portion of Mr. Dunn's article follows:—

Paris, Aug. 28.—(Delayed by Censor)—Busigny forged forth its terrorized mothers and old men. All seemed too poor for traveling on wheels. I found myself at a camp, on one side the heroic British spirit in the face of the heart-rending losses of their regiments, particularly to the famous Black Watch which he says was terribly decimated.

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PROHIBITS AERIAL FLIGHTS INTO CANADA

Government Issues an Order Barring them—Precautions Taken to Guard Against Any Attempt of Germans or Austrians to Use United States Territory as a Base for Bomb-Throwing Expeditions.

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Ottawa, Sept. 17.—An order-in-council was passed today prohibiting airplanes from flying within ten miles of any of the chief Canadian cities or fortified points, unless by special governmental permit, and prohibiting any aircraft carrying passengers to cross the international boundary, except under special conditions.

The action is taken by the government as a precautionary measure and because airplanes have been recently seen approaching various places near the border in Canada.

Guards have been stationed at all prohibited points with orders to fire upon any airplane which comes within the prescribed ten-mile area.

The places named in the order-in-council are: Halifax, Sydney, St. John, Quebec, St. Johns, Valcartier, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto, London, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria, Vancouver and Charlottetown.

It is also provided that no airplane may pass within ten miles of any wireless telegraph station.

Aircraft crossing the international border and carrying passengers are allowed to land only at points within three miles of Annapolis (N. S.), Woodstock (N. B.), Lake Meville and Herby, in Quebec; Athens, Welland and Essex, in Ontario; Morris (Man.),

(Special to The Telegraph.)

Stavrovo (Sask.), Lethbridge (Alta.), and Chatham (B. C.).

A Canadian officer must be carried on any airplane that lands in Canada, and no firearms, explosives or photographic equipment will be allowed on board.

Any military aircraft in Canada must be the property of the Canadian government or of Great Britain or her allies.

One reason for this strict governmental regulation of airplanes is a view to preventing any secret fitting out of airplanes by Germans or Austrians in the United States with a view to bombing or scouting of fortified or military points in Canada. It is a remote but possible danger.

It is expected that the Belgian commission, which waited on President Wilson at Washington yesterday in protest against German atrocities in Belgium, will be allowed to conduct the war will visit various points in Canada, and will, while in Ottawa, be the guests of the Canadian government. The Belgian consul-general for Canada, Maurice Gooze, is now communicating with the commission urging a visit to Montreal. No reply has yet been received, but two Belgian gentlemen from Montreal, who met the commission in New York, on the subject of the Belgian government, have reported that the commission have expressed a willingness to come to Canada. Invitations to address public gatherings have been extended to them by the Canadian clubs of Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.

HERO OF TWO WARS

(Special Cable)

Paris, Sept. 21. Rheims began on 8 o'clock this to the east through field glass either on Friday at It has been the assistent attacks and battery, two miles away. Was it in revenge aimed at the world enshrined their not. The exact dam off absolutely from are forbidden except early Sunday morning destruction of the

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AUSTRIANS IN SAD PLIGHT IS LATEST REPORT

(Continued from page 1.)

Noel Burton, chairman of the Balkan committee, has arrived at Sofia. His visit is being much commented on in Bulgaria. It is believed there that he is charged with a political mission.

Said-Mir-Alim, Emir of Bukhara, has donated \$50,000 to the Russian Red Cross.

MANY WOUNDED RETURNING HOME.

Rome, Sept. 17, via Paris, 7.26 p. m.—A despatch to the Messagero from Trent, Austria-Hungary, says:

"The authorities encourage the peasants to participate in the war by spreading reports that Austria is victorious. Large numbers of wounded are returning to their homes daily."

POLISH ARISTOCRACY FIGHTS FOR RUSSIA.

London, Thursday, 12.50 a. m.—A Petrograd despatch to Reuter's Telegram Company says:

"As an instance of Polish solidarity with Russia it is noteworthy that youths of the Polish aristocracy have raised a troop consisting of themselves and their retainers. This body is now attached to one of the Russian guard regiments, with which it is fighting side by side."

GERMANS FIGHTING EMPLOY SEACIES.

Petrograd, Sept. 17.—On the Austrian frontier the Russians are passing the River San. At Rava thirty guns, 8,000 prisoners and an enormous amount of stores were captured. General Brusiloff's army also captured several guns and a large number of prisoners, together with a considerable supply of stores, on the right bank of the river Dniester.

The Austrians were driven back at Dorogobuzh and the adjoining regions have been occupied by the Russians. There was no resistance.

A serious military correspondence of the Bourze Gazette, in a long criticism of what he terms the joint mistake of Austro-German strategy, the effects of which, he says, are now revealed on both fronts, considers that the Galician victory was obtained at an opportune moment and that the transfer of German troops from the western to the eastern frontier has not attained its object.

He says it is fair to conclude that the Russian successes on the Austrian front and the Russian movement in East Prussia were the primary causes of the victories of the Anglo-French army. The shocks administered by the Russian army, he declares, have been so powerful that the Germans were obliged to recall a part of their troops from France, thereby facilitating the French task.

Colonel Shumsky thinks that the Germans will attempt to seek consolation in a useless hole which they are striving to deliver in East Prussia, where there are no serious military objectives for decisive operations. He says that German strategy is revealing symptoms of a strange anæmia which has always had a fatal issue. The German fleet, he says, has distinguished itself in empty places where there was nothing to fight and the army in East Prussia, he says, is now engaging in a similar operation.

WHEN RUSSIANS OCCUPIED LEMBERG.

London, Sept. 18, 2.12 a. m.—An account of the capture of Lemberg is given by an English engineer who had just arrived in Petrograd from Lemberg. It is contained in a despatch to the General News from his Petrograd correspondent.

"Lemberg broke out in the city on the approach of the Russian army," the engineer is quoted as saying. "The entire Austrian administration fled precipitately. No defence of the town was attempted. The Russians gave the demolition of the city, and in three days it was in their hands to evacuate the city."

"On the third day, as the appointed time approached, Russian scout aeroplanes appeared over the city, watching for the departure of the Austrians. When the Austrians failed to leave the Russians made a show of opening a bombardment. Although no shells actually fell in Lemberg, the cannoning terrified the citizens, of whom 35,000 bolted into the surrounding country."

"The large Jewish community was particularly alarmed, owing to the fact that which had been printed in Austrian newspapers. Bankers emptied their vaults and made their escape with the money. Nobody was allowed to leave Vienna by train unless they deposited 5,000 kronen at the railway station to show their ability to meet the enormous increased expense of living in the capital. A deposit of 1,000 kronen was required for a trip to Budapest."

"Among the pitiful sights in Lemberg

Hero of Two Wars

(Special Cable)

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VOL. LIV.

FIGHT WITH

RHEIMS DELIBERATE

This is View Wonderful

French Success in Fired German Town Was Result After French man Attack,

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Your Future

Life insurance experts say that three out of four persons who attain old age are obliged to rely upon others for support. If you wish to be independent when your earning days are over you should begin to save at once.

Depositors in our Savings Department are protected by our large Surplus and our adequate Reserves of Cash Reserves.

The Bank of Nova Scotia

Capital \$1,000,000
Surplus \$1,000,000
Reserves \$1,000,000

SEARCHERS OF FREE LANDS
in every Canadian Province, and in Newfoundland, West Indies, China and New York.

Charlotte County Exhibition Opens

St. Stephen, Sept. 15.—The Charlotte county exhibition was opened today and the attendance is good. Many of the exhibits exceed those of last year. The horticultural exhibit is particularly fine and is one of the best ever seen in this section of the province.